



# MAS & MANJON FOUNDATION

## scientific independent corporation

Since 1975 cognitive neuroscience research

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In 1955 creates Herbert Phillipson Object Relations Test (ORT). His immediate predecessor is the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT), Henry Murray released in 1942 and is based on the Theory of necessity - emotional strain .

While both tests are of visual stimulation and verbal response, the stimulus material is different because the TAT used in most of the plates a stimulus more structured corresponding to given topic, while the ORT scenes represent situations of different object relations in a context of low structure, with different nuances depending on the series, in what makes human content, and the content of the objects in the environment and includes, like the Rorschach, chiaroscuro and color (series C ).

The ORT is based on the Object Relations Theory of Melanie Klein and Fairbairn. It consists of thirteen plates, twelve of which represent different situations of object relations and a plate blank, which is presented at the end of the administration.

plate 1 (A1)

***Description***

Confront the subject with a new situation. The plate has a character, usually visualized as male and back. In some cases, a second character often seen attached to the female and is located in the lower left corner of the plate.

Environmental composition or content of reality is not defined, which can be distinguished as such is given by the interplay that provides light, shading and texture of the plate.

In the central area and possibly the effect of light gray, often seen an arc shape or church window, water and / or cataracts. The position is located in the exterior, fog or smoke. The mood, also given by the range of grays, stimulates the primitive subject dependency needs, as well as doubt and uncertainty.

***Indicators***

The new situation arising from the plate shows how the examinee reacts to loneliness and forces him to use his domestic baggage to take care of it, since the content of reality is almost zero.

Explore the possibility therefore that this has to be managed adaptively to new situations and solitude and resorting to the more mature aspects of the self, and its ability to reflect not only the unknown, but also in relation to their own abilities.



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plate 2 (A2)

***Description***

Appears here a couple. The human figures are also presented as the above with a light shading tinged with a darker gray range.

The plate is occupied mostly by two human silhouettes that look another. Overall the figure on the left as a female and as a male right is displayed.

A gentle nod and shoulders secrete dark shading which is at the lower end of the stimulus. Here again the contents of the environment is almost null, undefined, only the clarity of central luminosity provides the stimulus and is often seen where a landscape (coastal, sea, lake). As for the emotional climate or context of reality, this is evocative of feelings of dependency, sensory and physical contact.

***Indicators***

It is generally seen a heterosexual couple with a particular type of bond (loving, friendly, fraternal) in a situation of intimacy (talking, discussing, sharing secrets, etc..)

We must take into account here in making the formal aspect, if the subject is included in the story, or if its position is the rapporteur. It is also important to consider whether including a third character between the couple (enerally a baby) as this data may be indicative of difficulties in relation to what the plate explores (internal partner and conflicts linked to it).





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plate 3 (C3)

### **Description**

This plate shows the inside of a room that are just sketched three figures. It is more realistic, in contrast to the previous two. The content is actually richer in detail here - albeit poorly defined-: tea or coffee service, fireplace, object on its framework, often displayed as a clock and supports different interpretations.

The situation was staged in a living room or desktop. To the right and in the foreground is a chair with a figure sitting next home attached to the wall. Before the fire silhouette of a man is right hand on the mantelpiece.

The third figure is sitting right by table, facing the first figure. This is just outlined, but with many details and ambiguous as to sex, age and attitude.

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The mood is given by the appearance of color with two methods: intrusive (Red Balloon) and red blur, forcing the examined affective nuances integrate this raises a more realistic and coherent account.

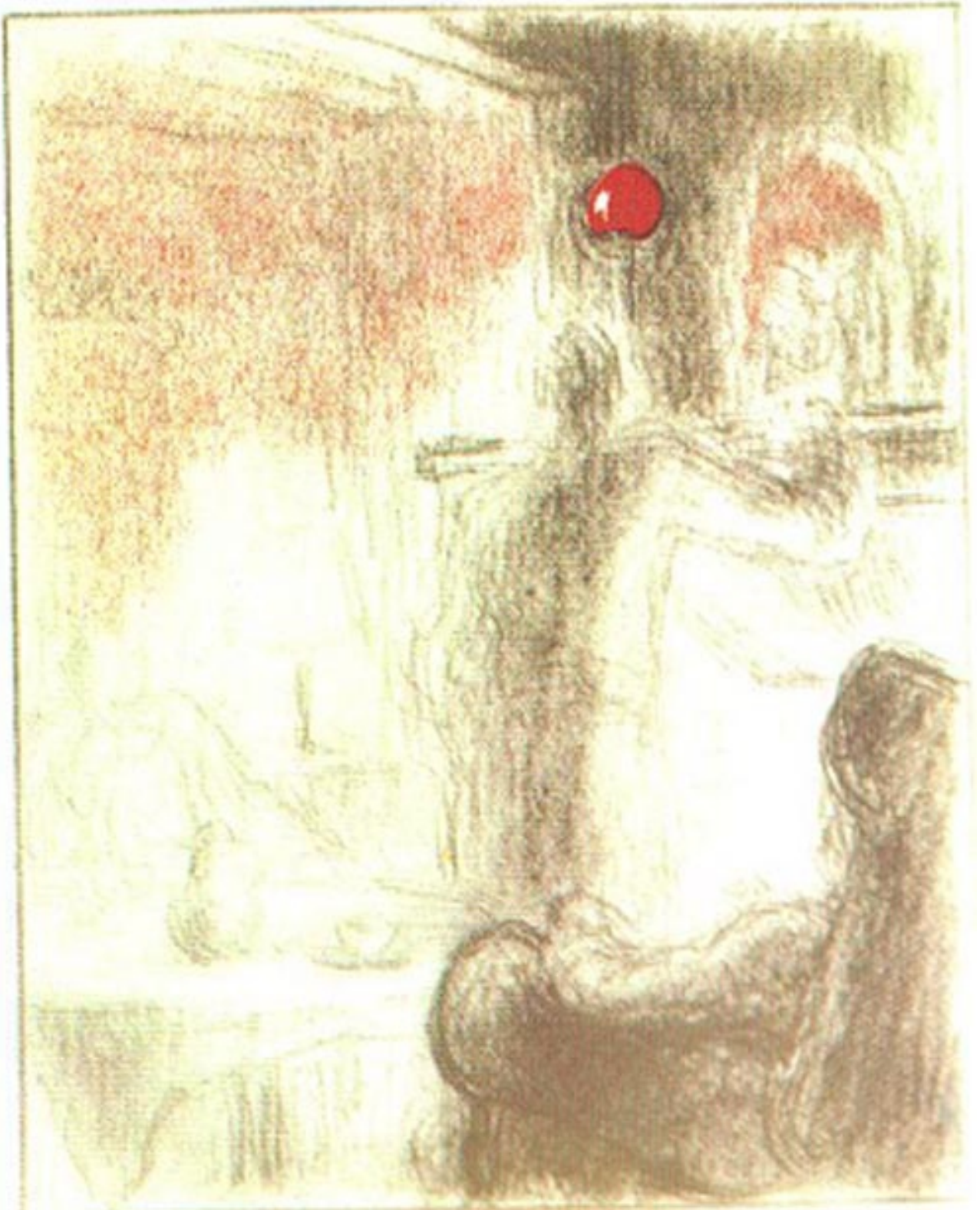
### **Indicators**

It is expected that the situation referred to in tripersonal which were awarded to the male figure is standing and sitting on the couch, and female gender which is facing display. Less commonly seen are usually three characters as male, which would be an indicator that the oedipal implications that promotes plate are avoided.

The challenge presented by this plate is to integrate and harmonize the red balloon-intrusive which encourages aggressive fantasies and attack-with reddish blur gives feeling of warmth and protection.

If the subject manages to integrate into a story which combine harmoniously these aspects, we can infer the existence of a mature, adaptive, with the ability to sublinear through more sophisticated defense mechanisms (discussion, exchange of ideas, position reconciliations , among others). This would indicate a good degree of control of the drives (repression), allowing you to develop the triangular situation.

It should be observed during the analysis of the data provides the narration, if it really is a complete story (present - past - future) or incomplete; role of each of his characters, their characteristics; bond between them (friends, family, colleagues, etc.) and different types of interactions (talk, fight, argument, motor actions ...)



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plate 4 (B3)

### **Description**

Again here tripersonal situation is a little unwelcoming and reality content frame, but well defined. The contours are well demarcated and emotional climate is evocative of coldness and threat.

While the situation remains triangular unlike the previous plate couple together and there is clearly a remote third character of the same. This is necessary to account for the quality of the stimulus, defensive maneuvers are limited.

Thus, in the perceptual axis can be omitted (disprove) the presence of a child or a person who observes the couple. Less often is usually seen between the pair fourth child-character-usually found between transformation and less frequently operating at the perceptual level becomes the third character in statue or curtain, with the implications that this entails.

The situation is staged in an area of "indoors", which is signified by the patient as hall, hospital (waiting room) or theater, among others.

### **Indicators**

**Indicators** to consider in the story are always related to the human content, content of reality and emotional climate.

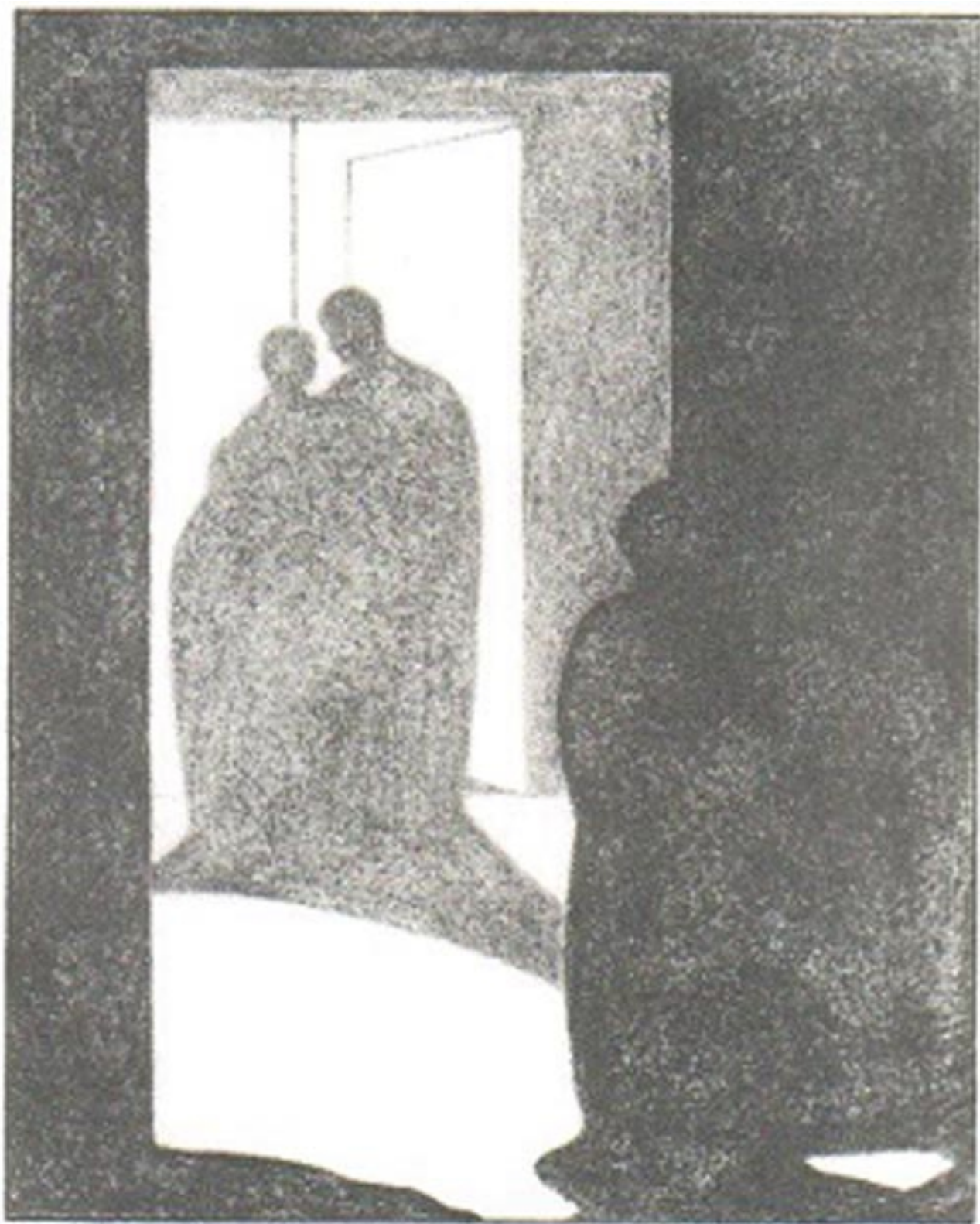
It is expected therefore that the story refers to the situation of the excluded in an atmosphere of coldness and develop in an indoor environment (cliche). An oedipal situation whose underlying theme is jealousy intrusion and configured here.

Seeing the central figure three characters (one of them a child between the couple) realizes intolerance situation posed by the plate. Often also find stories where the subject of the gaze (look - be viewed) is emphasized and reference is made to a person looking at (spy) the couple.

Less frequently, are often two characters in a religious setting (church, temple) between which there is a relationship in which one needs the other, to which he attributes moral or religious (priest, rabbi, guru) authority the east, as it is checked out or in need of help.

As the story is encouraging to find stories with the three times and euphoric outcomes (positive) whose plot reveals a development of the situation created by the stimulus.





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plate 5 (AG)

**Description**

From the defined situation presented B3 plate pictorial representation of this plate refers to the subject again to a situation unstructured A1 and A2, worked here with a clear texture, having a group situation.

Human content is displayed as 5 or 6 figures often in two groups of three characters. A right lower three figures are often erect size and distance from the rest.

Regarding the spatial dimension from right to left, diagonally between the two groups appear patches of light and shadow that subjects can receive different meanings, such as: Additional figures, tombs, hills, etc..

In the foreground three characters are also displayed somewhat inclined position, which together with the texture of the foil and chill emphasizes feelings of loss, allowing classify it as "depressing".

In some cases, they are colonies of penguins, dolphins, and other opportunities, it alludes to a park with statues and ice sculptures.

**Indicators**

The characteristics of the stimulus, this mobilizes anxiety depressive type, forcing the subject to make contact with their ego-related resources, since the content actually being practically nil, does not serve to anchor their defensive maneuvers.

It is important in this plate that the figures are seen as people who are viewed with some movement forward and places them in an outdoor environment (burial - wake) and the dehumanization of the characters (statues, waves, dolphins) gives account of archaic defense mechanisms that lead to the difficulty in drawing infer duels.

Explore therefore considered as handles the loss situations and what kind of defenses is instrumented versus situation.

So the subject has two options:

- Take charge of the situation that mobilizes Print
- Do not make contact with raising the stimulus

Depending on the option chosen, we will through the analysis of data access to the type of major defense and therefore the eroticism involved, predominant anxiety, quality of self and therefore the quality of the work of the preconscious.



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plate 6 (B1)

**Description**

Again we present a plate with a character, but in this case, in an indoor environment, and evocative texture feelings of deprivation and little comfort, which being of Series B has a high degree of definition.

The human content is presented in a situation devoid of warmth in a cold and hostile environment. The content of reality (dresser, mirror or frame, door, bed rail) is well defined according to the corresponding series and the emotional climate or context that actually help to consider the environment as inhospitable or hostile.

A male figure who arrives or leaves the room displays in general. Sometimes, but not display, is included in the story a second character.

**Indicators**

This plate evaluates the situation of loneliness and explores the conflicts that may exist in relation to identity.

The inclusion of a second character may be indicative of the inability to be alone with himself for difficult to enjoy activities that allow you to enjoy the solitude (read, watch videos, write, reflect), which among other things could imply hue persecutory internal world, in this special case, promoted by the characteristics of the stimulus.

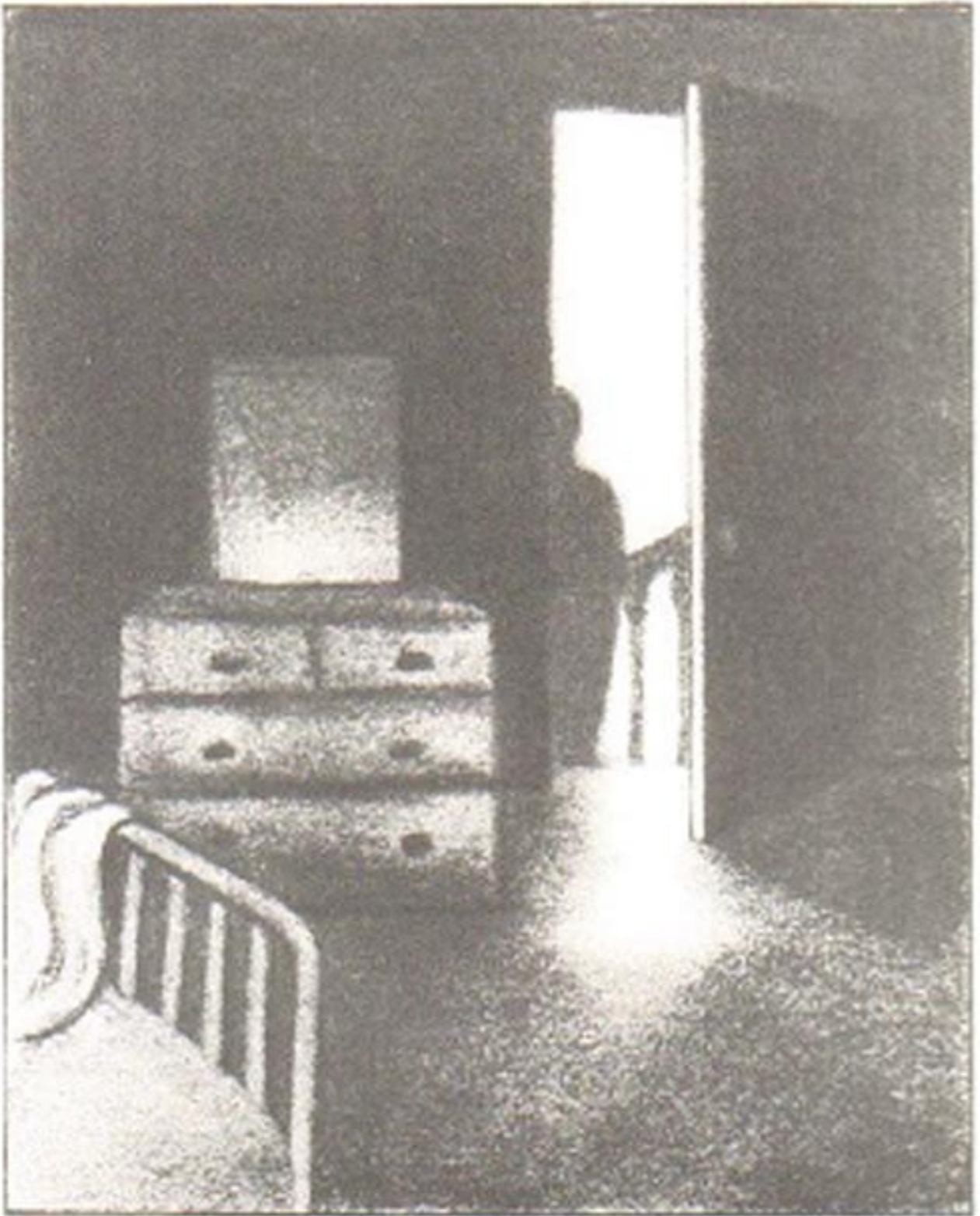
Regarding the character, the "out" or "enter" the room would notice as it relates to the inside or outside of himself and features would attribute to such spaces. This relates to how you can move two spaces and the desired or feared consequences relating thereto. The above realizes the quality of the defenses and ability to deal with different situations, especially considering the hostile and threatening tone that the plate proposes.

In general it is expected a story that relates to a hotel room or hospital (hospital, clinic) that is characterized by a brief stay of the character. In other cases, it means as room of a house, which is indicative of permanence, which could be linked to assume the identity and its ability to "remain" in a future therapeutic project and face his interiority.

Conversely, if it is perceived as a place of passage, that would take us to potential conflicts of identity, inability to be alone and probable difficulty accepting a therapeutic engagement.

Less common are stories related to the visit of a parent of a sick child, thus avoiding the implications that the plate promotes. Las stories that mention the character as preparing to attend a party, event, meeting, etc.. would realize the denial (disavowal) as a structural defense, provided that this mechanism appears with significant frequency in the other plates.





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plate 7 (CG)

### **Description**

The plate is almost entirely covered by a white staircase with effects and color. The composition of it was taken from Eisenstein's plate "Battleship Potemkin" and represents a group at the foot of the staircase that defies or is challenged by an authority figure.

At the top of the stairs is the shadow of that figure which crosses the upper three stages.

Down at the right corner a group, in which three or four human figures, one of which has a raised arm are distinguished.

In the lower left, the kick of a balustrade extending along the side of the staircase appears.

In this plate many perceptual distortions occur and overall deviations appear here more often than in other plateing.

### **Indicators**

The situation presented by the plate is that of a group versus an individual with traits of authority (leader - group). Explore the relationship of the respondent with authority, both external and internal.

The way in which the subject resolves the conflict between the parties, not only realizes the interaction that occurs between the two terms of the relationship, but also how defenses play and the characteristics of the self.

So if linked to This represented by the group and the figure at the top of the ladder which is representative of the superego, according to the characteristics of such aspects are contacting relationship-we can speak of a real self definitive, adapted to the requirements more realistic linked to the social world.

The extreme distance between them, given by the denial of one of the terms of the relationship between "above" and "below" shows, according to what is in the story-both the action of disavowal as the prevalence either of the drives (destructive power) and / or authoritarian and coercive power of the superego.

The ability to see both terms proposed stimulus is indicative of good prognosis, always taking into account the content of the story and the type of outcome.

Another positive indicator is to account for a situation of competition and / or achievement, because although these *Indicators* are evidence of the level of aspiration and desire to progress, while rejecting what spurred by the plate, because of the conflict of situation presented.

Is recommended to take into account the hue both euphoric outcomes (positive) and dysphoric (negative), since according to the dye that is made present, they may be inclined to conjecture manic or depressive states.









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## plate 8 B1

A three-person situation. They are two silhouettes of human figures in the range of light shading, they almost touch, being slightly higher than the other left. To the left is the third figure, which stands out from the light shading.

The topic is related to the fact of being separated from parents or neglected either by the parental couple or friends. Rarely seen as a rival to the excluded, unless the Technical is applied in the workplace, for example, in personnel selection.

Regarding environmental content, from right to left, diagonal shading makes an effect often seen as a path or river that separates the two characters in the third figure.

### *Indicators*

Print stimulates stories related to family situations, providing data for location-sequentially on the way in which the subject relates as a rival to the authority (traditional cliché). Stories may refer to the separation of the parents, or feel abandoned.

Appear here primal anxieties associated with triangular situation. It is expected that three male characters look.

As for the content of reality, the situation is staged in an open space (park or square, for example). The emotional climate that promotes the plate is evocative of separation situations where the character feels remorseful and guilty of inconvenience that may have caused, or damage done to the couple.













plate 9 (B2)

### ***Description***

This plate, like the above, also shows an external situation. In the foreground on the right, two well defined silhouettes very close together under a tree.

The tree, the two characters and the area of the tree are made of very dark gray, almost black. To the left is a black spot which is viewed as a shrub, usually just referred to.

To the right a separate house silhouettes in the front door and windows with effects of light and shadow is displayed.

The above objects are well defined environment. The mood given by intense chiaroscuro is evocative of a cold bleak environment, and feelings of vulnerability and hostility.

### ***Indicators***

The plate raises a family situation that is perceived as two people in love, ascribing the tree protection features.

Is generally attributed to the house of little significance for the couple continent, turning into an area it inhabits threatening a third attack or restricts the relationship of lovers. In other cases it may be seen as a refuge from the outside deprotection.

Stimulus features may also allow the emergence of fantasies of union and future projects.

A common variant in relation to the story consists of the story in which the members of the couple are robbers and plan a robbery or attack on the house.

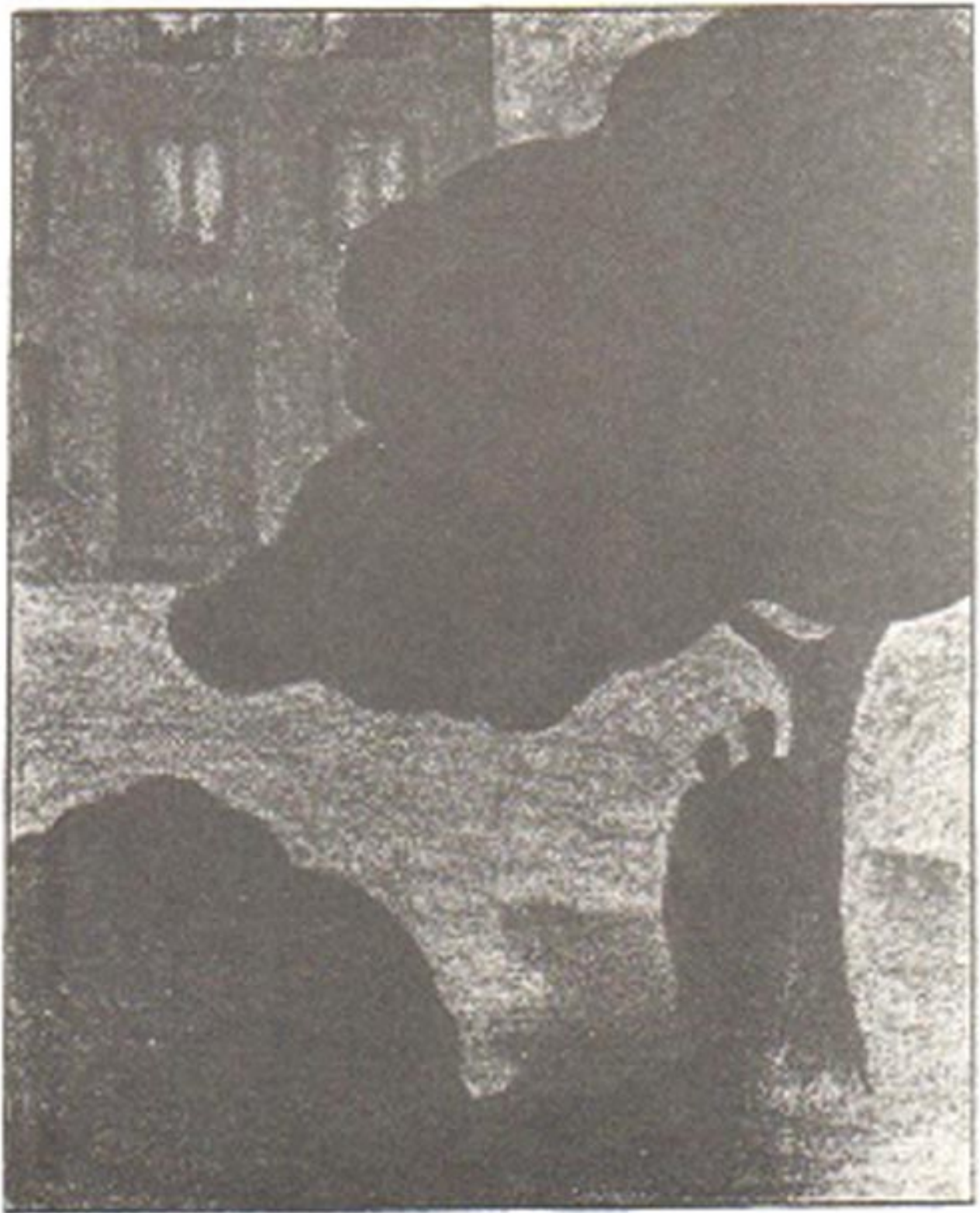
It is interesting to consider here two opposing variables suggested by the stimulus: the "inside" and "outside" (internal world - the external world) and connotations that are awarded to both spaces and intentions and actions of the characters mentioned in the story. This will evaluate not only the psychic agencies involved, but also the defenses and the quality of them and the ego-related resources that are appealing and serve not only as a forecast of future therapeutic alliance, but also projects and objectives that are possible in the choice of therapy.











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plate 10 (BG)

### **Description**

Repeated here again localized in an outer space representing a group of people and one of them is secluded, exclusive situation.

It has two arches in an architectural structure or a breakwater broken through the plate diagonally from lower left corner and it seems to be lost in the distance.

Given the series to which it belongs, the emotional climate is worked with the contrast between dark gray and white. In the light areas of the two arcs are human figures.

In the nearest to the left arch, five bodies fused among which stands a head, and in the second arch, is a single figure.

### **Indicators**

The plate represents, like the Print CG, a group situation, but unlike her, in this case there is an excluded character group, which stimulates the stories revolve around loneliness and spatial exclusion.

The characteristics of the content actually puts the development of the story in a visit to a ruined either a youth group with a teacher, or tourists with a guide. The characters are mostly seen as male.

Quite often passengers are also seen on the platform of a railway station, without including any explicit link and / or interaction.

Less frequently mentioned in the story the scene of a play-

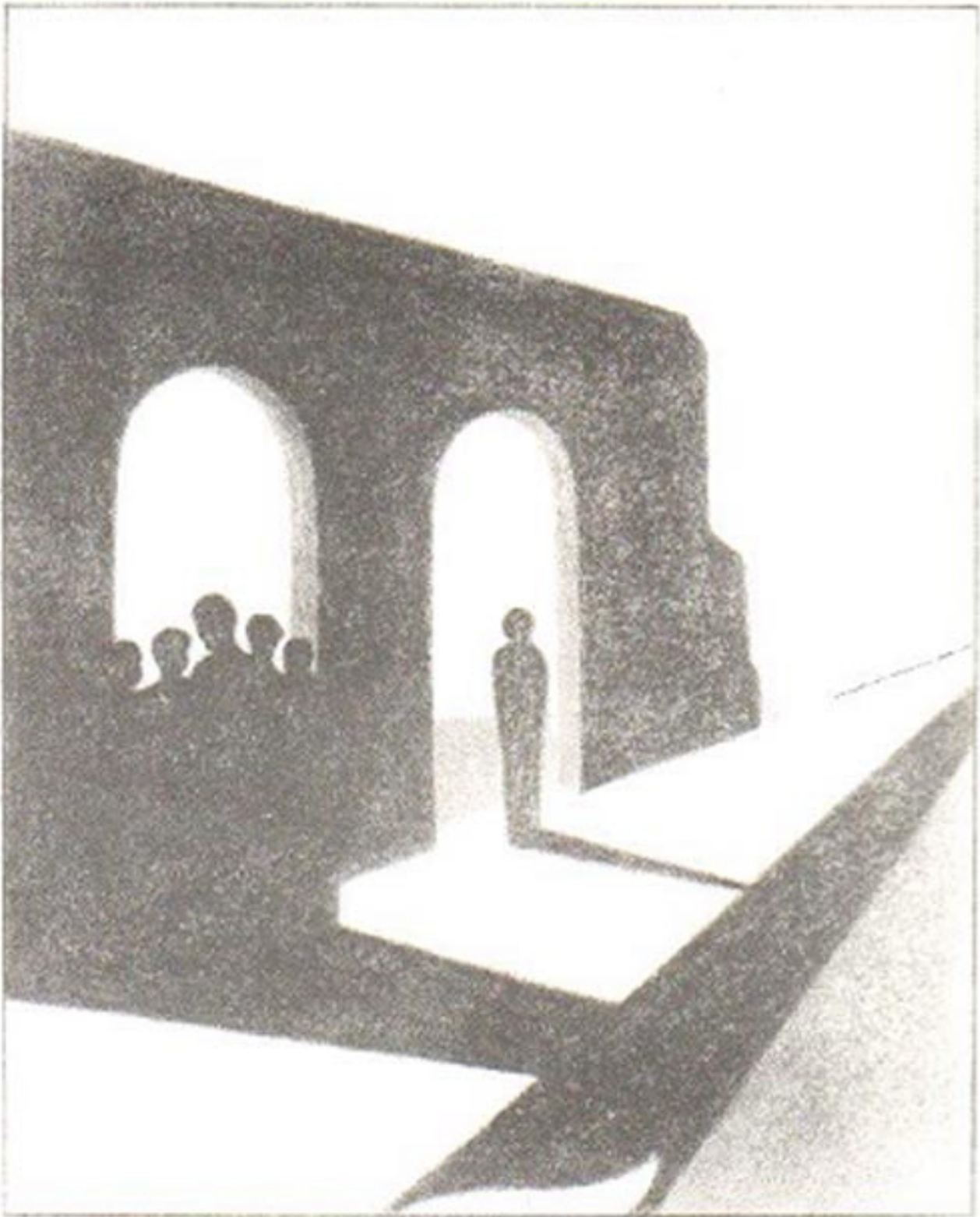
For the spatial location of the characters and the contrast of black and white an emotional climate that promotes feelings of loneliness with the group and exclusion from peer group is generated. Often such exclusion is transient (eg, the character is fulfilling a pledge); other presents this departure Final nuances either feel misunderstood or rejection of the group towards him.

Explore therefore feelings of acceptance, rejection or indifference between the two terms appearing in the picture. The no relationship between the subject and the group was found by us in the ongoing investigation that we mentioned above, is being studied by the frequency with which we obtained by analyzing the stories.

Depending on the type of history we find we can surmise feelings of insecurity and loneliness (leaving the subject group) or vice versa (the group produces harm and is best excluded as a protective measure). The latter occurs infrequently.

Given the characteristics of the current social situation, not only the metapsychological dimension thereof also the sociocultural traversal in some way biased narration and / or

**Description** it is necessary to consider the content or plot of the stories.



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plate 11 (C2)

**Description**

A silhouette is presented to one side of the entrance to a bedroom where you see the end of a bed and various objects, including slightly outlined is one that is perceived as a dresser and a picture on the wall.

In the bed is a form that is commonly seen as a second human figure.

The color here, as in all the plates in this series, plays an important role. The red frame and yellow box in the bed frame are integrated to the situation depicted.

**Indicators**

This plate presents a two-person situation, and leads to part of the second figure is seen in bed. Stimulation depending on the color of the different elements that make up the content of reality-the interpretation of the scene as a disease situation, uncomfortable old age or death and / or injury of one of the members of the couple.

It is unusual to see a male as those who approach the room and to award female character who is in bed.

The yellow color of the bed and reddish brown with touches of hanging frame on the dresser, we think contribute to expressing emotions related to feelings of helplessness, vulnerability and loss that appear in the stories.

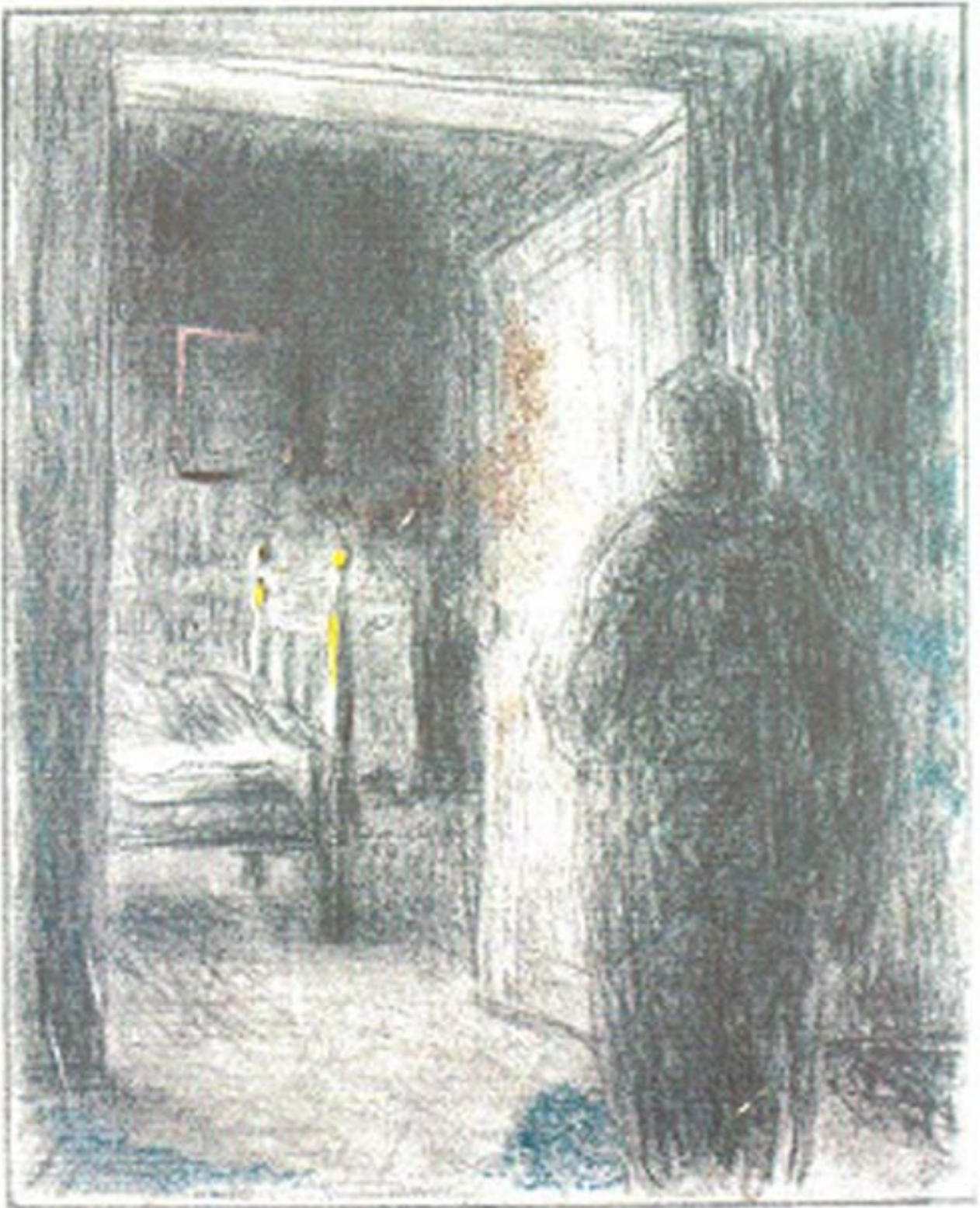
Too often did not show the expected situations such as death, accident, illness, nor display the character in bed conjecture which allows the performance of the denial (disavowal) as a defensive mechanism, whether this mechanism is repeated in other plates. It is useful to compare the appearance of this defense in relation to the series and number of characters of the stimulus.

At other times this mechanism is added to the displacement of human content to the context of reality, leading to stories in which the plot revolves around an old, sad, damaged and / or dirty house.

This type of reports that documented lack of adaptive ego-resources (creativity, sublimation, repair) and paid somehow denied the existence of such basic defense.

It is necessary to perform the intra-test comparison with other plates whose object of exploration relating to this: B1 - AG





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plate 12 (C1)

**Description**

This is the last plate with pictorial representation is given. Represents a room inside a closeup view. To the left is a table. On the right in the corner there is a window through which a barely sketched human silhouette appears indefinite. Under the window, along the right wall, there is a lavatory or kitchen sink.

On a chair a little away from the table, there is a napkin or towel with crossed red lines. On the table is a jar or jars of flowers or branches outlined, two cups or containers and fountain.

That is the plate having higher content of reality.

Like the red color appears in C3, here in two forms: an intrusive way stripes object is displayed as cloth or napkin, and faded in a way different reddish and brownish.

**Indicators**

In general, the pictorial representation of this plate generates two types of stories, those in which aspects of human warmth and cozy atmosphere are emphasized and others in which the accent on the untidiness and disorder sets.

Majority stories realize that the kitchen of a modest home, or cottage is displayed, or a single room and the action is set in the past or future tense.

Overall the character is not seen, it is referred to in the story as he went to work. Are frequent stories where a family is added and less frequently a couple with heterosexual bond. In both cases or "they're coming to breakfast" or "I ate breakfast and go" each to their activities.

It is clear that the content of the stimulus actually leads to express linked to orality and reddish brown stripes cloth which would realize the annals emphasize content above situations.

We also find in this plate as in the previous (B1) an inside and an outside, which would allow us to hypothesize, because the common denominator of the stories is going-the difficulty of the interviewee to deal with your inner world and in need of a given outer space (work, shopping, school) linked to the daily activities, leaving no room for the realm of fantasy.

Always at the level of conjecture, we can think that the stay could be threatening or hostile in a function to defend the inability to be alone with himself because of poverty of resources.



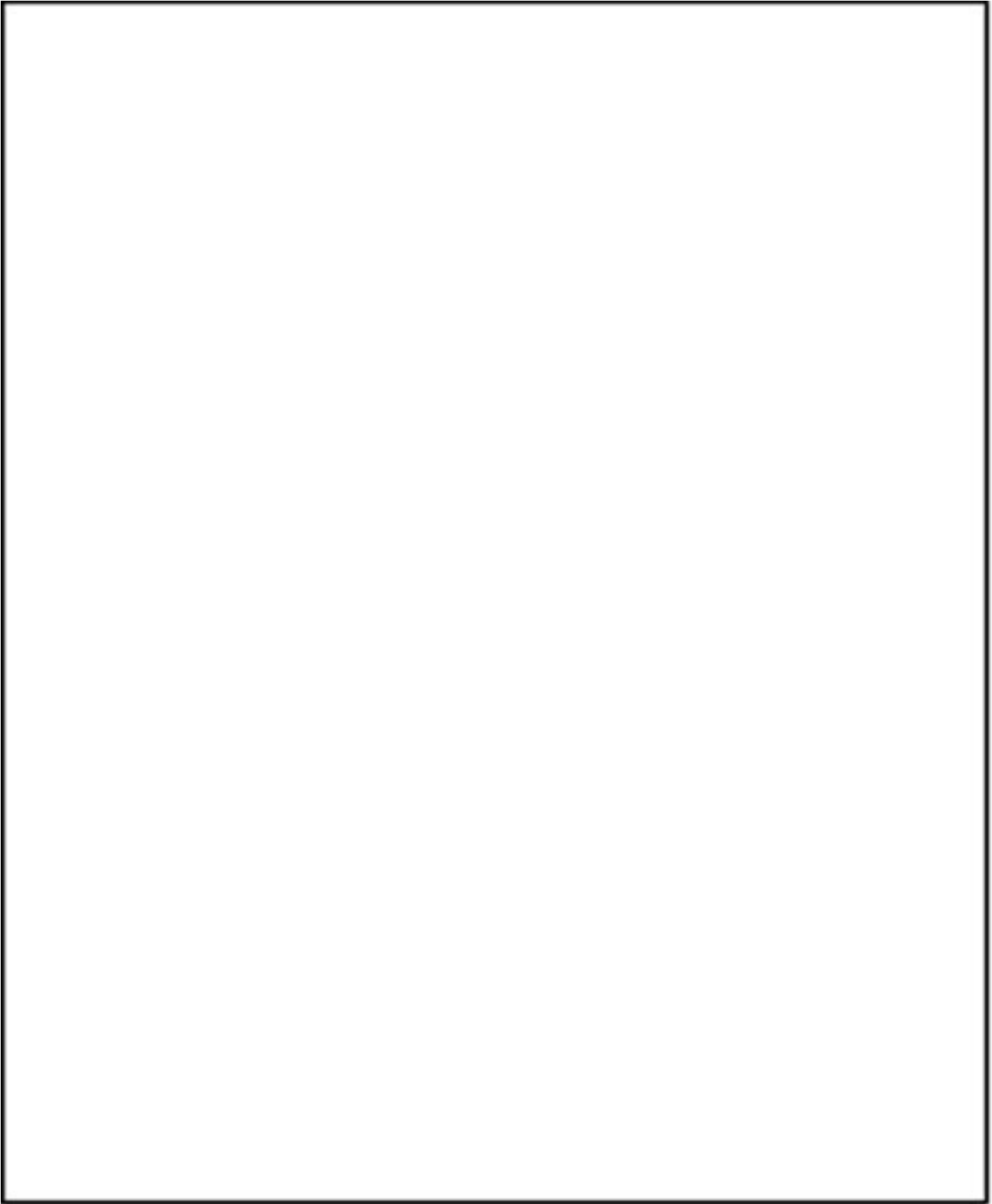
## White plate

The blank plate is presented last. As its name implies, there are neither any pictorial representation. Unlike the TAT, the ORT is shown at the end. According to Frank R. Verthelyi subject is asked to imagine that kind of scene could be represented there that describe and then make a story as in previous plates.

According to FIG imagine and build the story, provides information about the type of "world" that would build for themselves in order to get the maximum reward and minimum of frustration and anxiety.

The observables that allow access to this information is linked to the presence or absence of people in history, linkages and interactions that may arise between the characters, the physical environment is described and the emotional climate that awards the situation.







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Cognitive Neuroscience Research and specific factors of apprehension cognitive, processes which are not objective realities that determine behavior, it's cognitive representation and subjective evaluation on the part of the person which determines the behavior of the subject which acts, it is what he believed what he regarded as authentic, even if is objectively false, behavior is more a function of causes that of real reasons .

Investigación Aplicada en los Procesos Cognitivos y los déficits de factores específicos en los procesos de aprehensión cognitiva ,no son las realidades objetivas las que determinan la conducta, sino su representación cognitiva y su valoración subjetiva por parte de la persona lo que condiciona el comportamiento del sujeto que actúa, es lo que él cree lo que él considera como auténtico, aun cuando sea objetivamente falso, la conducta es más una función de causas que de razones reales.

Investigació Aplicada en els Processos Cognitius i els déficits de factors específics en els processos d'aprehensió cognitiva ,no són les realitats objectives les quals determinen la conducta, sinó la seva representació cognitiva i la seva valoració subjectiva per part de la persona el que condiciona el comportament del subjecte que actua, és el que ell creu el que ell considera com autèntic, tot i que sigui objectivament fals, la conducta és més una funció de causes que de raons reals

*J. Mas i Manjon*

Jordi Mas i Manjon (research department director )